



NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**BARROW MAN CONVICTED OF POSSESSING METHAMPHETAMINE WITH INTENT TO
DISTRIBUTE AND BEING A FELON IN POSSESSION OF A FIREARM**

Fairbanks, Alaska – United States Attorney Nelson P. Cohen announced that on Thursday, July 17, 2008, after deliberating six hours, a jury of nine women and three men found Jerry Lee Donovan guilty of one count of possession of methamphetamine with intent to distribute and one count of being a felon in possession of firearms.

Donovan, age 39, of Barrow, was tried before United States District Court Judge Ralph R. Beistline in Fairbanks.

According to Assistant United States Attorneys Bryan Schroder and Kim Sayers-Fay, who prosecuted the case, the evidence presented at trial established that Donovan possessed methamphetamine when law enforcement officers searched his home, pursuant to a search warrant, on December 8, 2004. The methamphetamine was packaged in individual bindles and straws for sale. Also during the search, the officers found numerous firearms. Donovan is prohibited from owning firearms due to two previous felony convictions, one of which was also related to illegal drugs.

Judge Beistline scheduled sentencing for October 10, 2008 at 9:30 am. The law provides for a total sentence of 10 years in prison, a fine of \$2,000,000, or both. Under the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, the actual sentence imposed is based on the seriousness of the offenses and the criminal history of the defendant.

Pending sentencing, the court ordered that Donovan remain in custody.

Mr. Cohen commended the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and the North Slope Borough Police Department for the investigation leading to the conviction of Donovan.

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